

## Connecting with AMC's Graduating Seniors



### Chelsea Brubaker

As a child of the church, Chelsea shares what has been especially meaningful to her as she graduates from Ephrata High School this year: the AMC community, and the love she has felt growing up in this church.

Especially memorable for Chelsea were the annual MYF planning retreat weekends. The games played at night would bring out her competitive side, challenging her to “go so hard-core” as to wear black and be camouflaged to win the game.

Chelsea’s favorite school is Ephrata High School. Although she can’t name a favorite teacher, she has always loved biology. Favorite high school memories include participating in winter and spring track & field, and playing field hockey.



Chelsea plans to attend EMU, which she chose because of its rich culture. When she leaves for Harrisonburg, she will take with her the knowledge that she is valued. Chelsea has heard that college students don’t eat well. She suggests that one way we can support her while she’s living in the dorm is by sending care packages. Looking to the future, Chelsea would definitely consider returning to this area and to AMC if her career would lead her in this direction.

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### Worship Schedule

June 4 . . . . .	Rachel Nolt
11 . . . . .	Allison Carnahan
18 . . . . .	Rachel Nolt
25 . . . . .	Karyn Nancarvis



### Christopher Hershberger

Chris moved to Ephrata with his family when he was three years old, and shortly afterward began attending AMC.

Chris can easily name his “favorites”. His favorite sport while growing up in the Ephrata school district was soccer. His favorite teacher was Mr. Hunter (Tech Ed); favorite class was physics; and taking his energetic dogs Scooter and Ripley to the dog park was his favorite activity. Favorite summer memories include those of vacations to Indiana to visit family.

A few of Chris’ stand-out memories are experiencing the Ephrata Fair over the years; the friends he’s made through soccer, and growing up at AMC. While at AMC, he has found the Sunday School classes especially meaningful, and he has appreciated his AMC friendships, especially as an MYF underclassman learning from the upperclassmen.



### *Chris Hershberger (continued)*

A love for movies is why Christopher finally decided to study Film, and to attend Temple University in the fall. He will welcome the support of AMC through letters and food!

His take-away message as he leaves for university is the importance of giving back to the community. He looks forward to returning to AMC as opportunity allows.



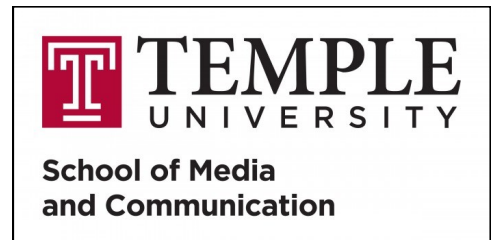
### *Emily Walker*

Emily's high school years at Ephrata High School have been full of friendships, theater performances, being part of the chorus and Camerata Singers, and competing as a member of the Quiz Bowl Team.

And classes, of course!

This summer, she'll be busy with her work at Lily's On Main, and she looks forward to a trip to Ontario to visit family.

Emily plans to attend Temple University in the fall, and will likely study some aspect of Communications.



## *Pastor's Perspective*

Because we are a resurrection people, it is good to be reminded of resurrection in the hard places in life. Here is another excerpt from *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion* by Gregory Boyle. (I used an excerpt in a sermon several weeks ago.)

Father Greg was working with two brothers both struggling with chemical addictions. Petro, after relentless nagging, finally began the long, hard (slow) work of returning to himself. After 30 days of work, younger brother Jovan, took his own life. The following is a conversation between Petro and Father Greg as written by Father Greg.



“It’s a trip G. I had a dream last night. And you were in it.”

And in this dream, Pedro and I are in a large, empty room, just the two of us. There are no lights, no illuminated exit signs, no light creeping in from under the doors. There are no windows. There is no light. He seems to know that I am there with him. A sense, really, though we do not speak. Suddenly, in the dark silence, I retrieve a flashlight from my pocket and push it on. I find the light switch in the room, on the wall, and I shine this narrow beam of light on the switch. I don’t speak. I just hold the beam steady, unwavering. Pedro says that even though no words are exchanged, he knows he is the only one who can turn this light switch on. He thanks me for happening to have a flashlight. He makes his way to the switch, following the beam with, I suppose, some trepidation. He arrives at the switch, takes a deep breath, and flips it on. The room is flooded with light.

He is now sobbing at this point, in the telling of the dream. And with a voice of astonishing discovery, he says, “And the light...is better...than the darkness.”

As if he did not previously know this to be the case. He’s weeping, unable to continue. Then he says, “I guess...my brother...just never found the light switch.” Possessing flashlights and occasionally knowing where to aim them has to be enough for us. Fortunately, none of us can save anybody. But we all find ourselves in this dark, windowless room, fumbling for grace and flashlights. You aim the light this time, and I’ll do it the next.

The slow work of God.

And you hope, and you wait, for the light—this astonishing light.

We cannot make resurrection happen but we can stand in the dark, lonely, and empty places in the world and wait for God to show up because it is the nature of God. “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.” John 1:5  
—Rachel Nolt



*Please send your submissions for the  
 July newsletter to the church office  
 by Monday, June 26. Thanks.*





### *Thanks from a DSECC family*

We wanted to take the time to thank you for funding scholarships for families like mine. We cannot fully express enough gratitude to your organization. You have given our children a safe, warm, educational, and spiritual opportunity for learning. The staff is simply wonderful at Diamond Street. We could not ask for better teachers. They truly care about their students. It shows with the excitement my kids have towards school. Your organization is allowing my children to receive the best opportunities possible for their age group. You truly have answered our prayers. We do not take your kindness for granted. We feel blessed that we were chosen to have scholarship funding towards our children's education.

Our daughter and son were diagnosed with developmental delays at age one. We wanted to find a program where they could shadow fellow students of the same age. We found this at Diamond Street. My daughter would not sit still for meals, and her speech was delayed by 15 months. However, she is now able to receive IU-13 services at Diamond Street where there are no distractions. Once she started at Diamond Street she received the structure that she needed. It also helped with her behaviors. Since she is delayed in speech she gets frustrated with not being able to express herself verbally. She has learned a lot from fellow peers. Her teacher has been a blessing. She challenges my daughter in new and fun ways while maintaining a positive rapport.

In regards to our son, he used to cry with challenges/demands. However, with his teacher's fun approach to education, and small class size, he is gaining the confidence we have prayed for. Instead of fighting and not wanting to go to school, he is excited and is learning to enjoy reading and writing. Diamond Street offers hands-on activities to engage interests and keep children actively learning. It is an amazing school. We are thrilled to be a part of Diamond Street.

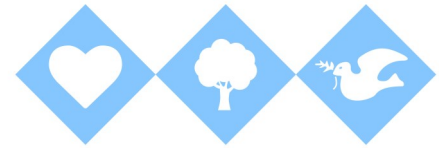
Thank you again for making this happen for our children! May God richly bless you!

Sincerely,

*In 2016, AMC provided \$10,000 in scholarships to DSECC.*

Roberta and Paul McFarland

**Scenes from Share-a-Life hike:** Despite the looming forecast for a passing rain shower, on May 6 Share-A-Life partners ventured out on a hike through Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area in Stevens, Pa. Here's what they encountered along with conversation and a little fun! (1) Deer (2) Birds: Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Green Heron, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Red-winged Blackbird, Canada geese (nesting), Song sparrow, Catbird, Bob-o-links, Turkey vulture, Swan (3) Carp (4) Flowers: Dandelion, Heal All, Golden Ragwort, Bladderwort, May Apples, Spring Beauties, Bush Honeysuckle, Russian Olive, Dogwood, wild asparagus, and many more things.



## Diamond Street Early Childhood Center

### Hearing Matters



Since Christmas more than ten people at Akron Menonite Church are hearing the word of the Lord more clearly than they did before. In fact, everything that is said in the sanctuary comes through better, thanks to new hearing devices. Anne Weaver was the first to test the receiver and ear bud (shown on left), and she happily explained it to others who, like her, experience hearing loss. The ear bud can be put in on top of a hearing aid, or used by itself on one ear. The head phone (which is bulkier) provides amplification to both ears.

The receiver works specifically with the sending unit that is in the AMC sanctuary (though not in other parts of the church). Pat Martin ordered these hearing devices and Hans Peter Neufeld crafted the storage unit kept at the back of the sanctuary (shown on right). Those who use them regularly have a slot to store their earbud, and there is no cost to those who use it. Thank you!



If you experience hearing loss, check with an usher or ask Anne about picking up a receiver and ear bud as you enter the sanctuary. Anne says, **“Now I can hear everything! It’s wonderful!”** Others who have tried the device are equally enthusiastic.



—article submitted by Marilyn Langeman & Pat Martin

### Pray For One Another

*James 5:16*

The purpose of “Pray For One Another” is to help us be aware of and pray for members of AMC who, for whatever reason, are unable to participate in Sunday morning worship services on a regular basis. Scripture **admonishes** us to pray. It is one of the joys of the Christian life and part of what makes us community. The names of people listed June change from time to time. If you know of someone you would like to be included with those named here, please be in touch with the church office.



- |                 |                            |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Charlotte Biris | Al Claassen                | Carolyn & John Horst |
| Becca Martin    | Paul Martin                | Philip Rutt          |
|                 | Amela & Randy Puljek-Shank |                      |

## Theatre Of The Beat Performs at Akron Mennonite Church

by Bob Wyble

Approximately 130 people attended the play *This Will Lead to Dancing* on Thursday evening, April 27 and again on Friday evening, April 28 at AMC. The play, written by Johnny Wideman, was performed by a cast of five professional young actors.

The content of the play pulled at the emotions of those who attended, resulting in laughter and tears as the actors played out the story of a church working on the issue of welcoming LGBTQ people into their congregation. Sam and Alex go on a hunger strike to put pressure on the church council to change church policy on welcoming LGBTQ people into the church.

When Sam, who is very involved in the church and leads worship on Sunday mornings, comes out as a lesbian, church council has a very difficult decision to make. After long deliberation, the church council decides that Sam is welcome to continue leading worship as long as she is not in a committed relationship.

This was not the outcome Sam and Alex had anticipated.

Sam: The feud between sexuality and spirituality is still alive. (Begins singing "We are People of God's Peace".)

Sam: You know how feuds end, right?

Alex: Tragedy?

Sam: At dances. Love unites and strengthens us at the celebration.

The play ends with the cast inviting everyone in the audience to sing, "WE ARE PEOPLE OF GODS PEACE AS A NEW CREATION. LOVE UNITES AND STRENGTHENS US AT THE CELEBRATION. SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE LORD , SERVING ONE ANOTHER. A NEW COVENANT OF PEACE, BINDS US ALL TOGETHER."

The play was sponsored by the Welcoming Dialogue Group.

*Editor's note:* Bob later received this email from a local congregation: " Just to let you know that six persons from (our church), including the pastor, were present at the play on Friday night. They were very enthusiastic about the performance and so glad that they had the experience. They are close to the time of voting for being officially open and affirming."

Cast and crew of "This Will Lead to Dancing."  
Photo by Bob Wyble





Dear Akron Mennonite Church Family:

Thank you so much to everyone who donated to our [Indiegogo campaign](#) for our documentary film [Barn Burner](#)! The film, if you don't already know, is a documentary about the metal music scene from Lancaster County. We have been working hard on it for almost 2 years now.

It's a film that we hope will highlight the music that we're both very passionate about, but also show off the values and culture of community we have learned through the years at Akron Mennonite. Though metal sounds aggressive and angry, what we found while making this film was that many of the metal musicians from Lancaster were influenced by the values of their families, churches, or neighbors to work hard, build community, and write music to inspire others.

We are continuing our fundraising campaign so that we can complete the film. This has been a fully independent project, and so we need to raise funds for things like music licensing and editing to be able to finish this film and show it to the world. We want to sincerely thank everyone who donated via our [Indiegogo campaign](#) and helped us get closer to achieving our vision. We are grateful for your gifts.

Our Indiegogo campaign is over, but we are still raising funds offline so that we can reach our goal. If you are interested in donating to the project, or want to support it in another way, please get in touch with us at our email addresses:

Tyler - [tmhorst@gmail.com](mailto:tmhorst@gmail.com)

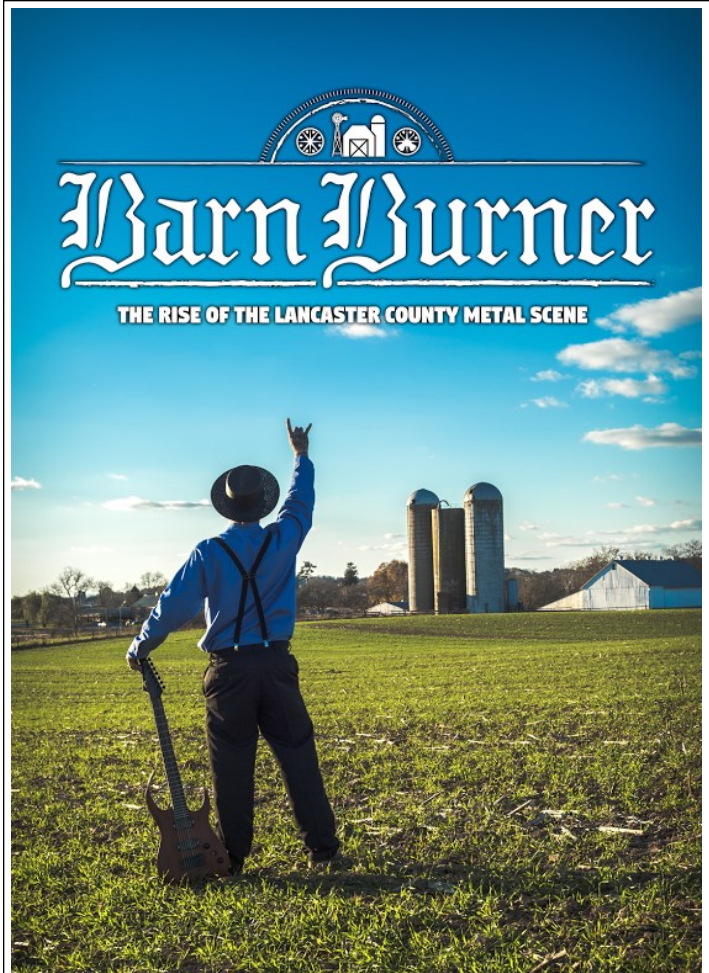
Eli - [passageeb0988@gmail.com](mailto:passageeb0988@gmail.com)

You can also visit our website at [www.barnburnermovie.com](http://www.barnburnermovie.com) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/barnburnermovie](https://www.facebook.com/barnburnermovie) if you would like to know more about the film.

Thank you so much for your support in this endeavor!

With gratitude,

Tyler Horst & Eli Passage



*Below: Eli Passage and Tyler Horst with JB Brubaker, one of the musicians in the film*



## June (and beyond) at AMC & in the Community

### June Upcoming Events

<b>June 1</b>	Men's Breakfast @ Udder Choice @ 7:00 am; Don Brubaker & MDS friends, presenters
<b>3</b>	Share-A-Life Service Project @ MRC; 9 to noon
<b>4</b>	AMC Senior Recognition and lunch
<b>6</b>	Lunch Bunch @ Oregon Dairy @ 11:30 am
<b>7</b>	Library Committee meeting @ 6:00 pm
<b>8</b>	Council Meeting @ 7:00 pm
<b>9—11</b>	Camping Weekend @ Locust Lake State Park
<b>25</b>	K-4 Teacher Appreciation Lunch

### SAVE THESE DATES

<b>July 4—8</b>	MCUSA Convention in Orlando, FL
<b>July 16—20</b>	VBS "Maker Fun Factory" with Akron Church of the Brethren
<b>August 3</b>	AMC serves Ephrata Community Meal
<b>August 20</b>	Opportunity to host Chinese students for lunch (see below)

### August Hosting Opportunity

*Please consider inviting a small group of 2 or 3 Chinese students to your home for lunch on August 20. This opportunity is coordinated by Kathleen Roth, former AMC'er and Director of EMU's Intensive English Program.*

The Intensive English Program of Eastern Mennonite University is collaborating with Franklin & Marshall College to offer an academic bridge program to around 22 incoming Freshmen from China.

They will be staying at the Welcoming Place at MCC from August 17 to August 23. The program is hoping to be able to get these students, in groups of 2 or 3, into an American home or family type of experience during lunchtime on Sunday, August 20, 2017. Pick-up and return would be at AMC. More details to follow.

### Stories that Heal and Shape Us

We will be offering a 4th series of Sister Care discipleship hour storytelling sessions beginning June 4 and running through July 30, (except for July 2nd). The weekly sessions will involve a different AMC sister each Sunday speaking from her life journey,



focusing on themes of joy or loss or selecting pivotal experiences that greatly influenced her. Classes are held in the Assembly Room. Women of AMC, plan to come and learn to know your AMC sisters better!

#### Women Sharing:

#### Convener:

June 4	Ruth Weaver	Ethel Shank
June 11	Dot Hershey	Marilyn Langeman
June 18	Amy Herr	Ethel Shank
June 25	Ginny Ebersole	Ethel Shank
July 2	No Class	
July 9	Donna Shenk	Jean Buchen
July 16	Joy Millen	Jean Buchen
July 23	Agnes Hacker	Jean Buchen
July 30	Nancy Chapman	Marilyn Langeman

Out of respect for the presenter, please come on time so that personal stories are not interrupted. Planners— Jean Buchen, Marilyn Langeman, Ethel Shank & Twila Miller



## Host An International Student



### ANNUAL AMC CAMPING TRIP

**Where:** Locust Lake State Park  
**When:** Friday June 9-Sunday June 11  
**What:** Join fellow AMCs for a weekend of campfires, hiking, biking, swimming, fishing, etc.  
**Who:** YOU!!!!

The Nolts have reserved site number 35 which has electric hook up and is on the edge of the lake. Please feel free to make your own reservations at 888-727-2757 or website of RESERVEAMERICA.COM . For the past few years, we have shared meals together-each family, couple, individual or combination of-provided one meal for all to share-so you would be responsible for just one meal. If you are interested in participating in this, please let Dawn Nolt know. Also, let me know if you will be joining us.



This is a nice state park- there is a paved trail around the entire lake, a nice lake for swimming, fishing, boat rentals-or bring your own non- motorized boat. There are trails for hiking, and plenty of red newts!! There is also a camp store for forgotten necessities (or ice cream treats!)

Hope you can join us this year!

Dawn Nolt  
 (717) 626-9563; [Dks965@aol.com](mailto:Dks965@aol.com)



### Get Ready for VBS!

This summer, AMC will partner with our neighbor, Akron Church of the Brethren (613 Main Street, Akron.). Join us for an interactive Bible story discovery through Maker Fun Factory from 6:00-8:15pm, Sunday July 16 - Thursday, July 20th. This program is available for children ages 4 (by September 1st) through grade 6.

Mark your calendars!

### MYF... Looking ahead

- June 4: Senior Recognition and lunch directly after the second hour at the home of Christopher Hershberger and Susan King, 184 Mortar Lane, Ephrata. More details to follow on what to bring.
- June 11: **\*\*New\*\*** June Supper Club has been changed to June Snack Club as Esther Hostetter and other AMC members who live at Landis Homes provide snack for the Second Hour and visit with you for a bit. Elizabeth Hoffman...you're off the hook for bringing snack that day!
- July 2: There is no 2<sup>nd</sup> hour scheduled, but the MYF **will meet** regardless to connect before leaving for Convention on Tuesday. **\*\*NEW\*\*** MYF send off to Convention celebration and Backyard BBQ at the home of Rich Crockett, 2393 Debra Avenue, East Petersburg. Join the fun even if you're not going to convention! More details to follow on what to bring, etc.
- July 4-8: MCUSA Convention in Orlando





Two host families for the 2017-2018 school year for two Nigerian students (2 different families needed) that are here at LMS. Both students (1 boy and 1 girl) are connected to the Mennonite Church in Nigeria and would prefer to stay with families attending Mennonite churches here in Lancaster. The guardians of the students are able to afford a modest monthly payment to offset some of the costs of hosting. For more information please contact Christy Horst [horstcl@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:horstcl@lancastermennonite.org), Elvin Kennel [kennelen@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:kennelen@lancastermennonite.org), Jeremiah Denlinger [denlingerjc@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:denlingerjc@lancastermennonite.org), or Kirk Benner [bennerkr@lancastermennonite.org](mailto:bennerkr@lancastermennonite.org)

### Parish Resource Center Summer Workshops

The Science & Experience of Chanting: Science  
Tuesday, June 20 | 6:00-8:00 pm

The Science & Experience of Chanting: Experience  
Tuesday, June 27 | 6:00-8:00 pm

What's Working Well in Your Children's Ministry?  
Monday, July 10 | 7:00-8:30 pm

Worship Design: Using Visual Arts to Enliven Your Space  
Monday, July 24 | 7:00-8:30 pm

Emotions Workshop:  
Understanding How the Holy Spirit Uses Emotions in Our Lives  
Monday, July 31 | 7:00-8:30 pm



pm



### Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society

#### What Young Historians Are Thinking

Hear from three young historians at 7 p.m. on Monday, June 5, at Ridgeview Mennonite Church. Micah Brickner will present on the outcomes of Evangelical Visitor, the denominational publication of the Brethren in Christ. Steven Bauman will discuss peace work of the American Friends Service Committee. Joel Nofziger will talk about Mennonite fictional films and what they reveal about Mennonite identity.

#### Music in the Orchard

Summer concerts begin at 6 p.m. on Saturday, June 10, at the 1719 Hans Herr House & Museum with the Celtic band Season, and an opening by Matt Miskie. Concerts continue every other week through August 5.

#### Blacksmith Class

Take up a hammer and learn how to blacksmith under the tutelage of the Herr House blacksmiths on Saturday, June 17, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration is June 2, the class costs \$65. Register at [www.hansherr.org](http://www.hansherr.org) or call (717) 464-4438.

#### Fairmount Homes' 13th Heritage Day

Saturday, June 3 from 6:30 am to 3:00 pm

Heritage Day, sponsored by Good's Store, is filled with great food, lots of fun activities and many opportunities to reminisce bygone days. The grounds are covered with more than 60 antique tractors, miscellaneous vintage farm implements, and an impressive array of antique cars. This year again, a tractor procession is planned at about 2:30 the close out this year's event. The day will also serve as the season's final day of the Fairmount's popular annual Silent Auction that started in late October.



Photo by Dale D. Gehman

# June Birthdays

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>FRI</i>	<i>SAT</i>
				1	2 Cindy Martzall Naomi Wyble	3 Tim Nancarvis Kristin Sims
4 Gerald Horst	5 Jane Davis	6	7 Tim Langeman	8 Amen Siyoum Scott Sundberg	9 Marilyn Yoder	10
11 Bryan Beyer Lowell Detweiler Don Gunden Aaron Smee	12	13	14 Bonnie Myers	15 Cathryn Beyer	16 Dick Boshart Isaac Dundore Charlie Forrey	17 Kristine Leaman Glenn Weaver
18 Jan Brubaker Barbara Penner Peter Wise	19	20 Sarah Forrey	21 Bob Peifer Cheryl Zehr Walker	22 Delores Nolt	23 Leon Myers Cheryl Wagner Bob Wyble	24 Amy Burkholder
25 Nelson Weber	26	27	28 Sheryl Krafft	29 Carolyn Beyer	30 Virginia Musser Isaac Nancarvis	



## Akron Mennonite Church

1311 Diamond Street  
Akron, PA 17501  
P: (717) 859-1488  
E: [amc@akronmench.org](mailto:amc@akronmench.org)

[www.akronmench.org](http://www.akronmench.org)

- ◇ *Worship @ 9:00 am*
- ◇ *Coffee/Tea Fellowship from 10:15-10:40 am*
- ◇ *Christian Education & Discipleship Hour from 10:40-11:40 am*

### Staff

Rachel Nolt  
Pastor  
[rnolt@akronmench.org](mailto:rnolt@akronmench.org)

Karyn Nancarvis  
Interim Director of Children & Youth Ministries  
[knancarvis@akronmench.org](mailto:knancarvis@akronmench.org)

Melody Rupley  
Director of Equipping Ministries  
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Patricia Martin  
Minister of Music and Worship  
[pmartin@akronmench.org](mailto:pmartin@akronmench.org)

Rebecca Pereverzoff  
Administrator  
[rpereverzoff@akronmench.org](mailto:rpereverzoff@akronmench.org)  
[amc@akronmench.org](mailto:amc@akronmench.org)



### Contact Updates

**Please delete** Karen & Kevin King's land line number from your directory, and use only their cell phone numbers:  
Karen: 717-917-0955      Kevin: 717-951-3286

**Please add** this info for Roger Martin to your directory:  
Roger Martin  
55 W. Franklin St., Apt. 402  
Ephrata, PA 17522  
Phone: 515-250-1615  
Email: [zweifellos910@gmail.com](mailto:zweifellos910@gmail.com)

### AMC Vision Statement

*Akron Mennonite Church will be fully engaged in God's mission in a broken world as we are called, equipped and sent by the Holy Spirit to follow Christ in life. Shaped by the gifts and vision of our members, we will keep Christ and church at the center of our lives as we reach out to neighbors near and far and witness to the world around us through an Anabaptist-Mennonite expression of faith.*

### Statement on Human Sexuality

*We are a community of believers seeking to respond with God's love to all people. We celebrate the strength of our unity in the midst of our diversity of experiences, perspectives and understanding of Scripture. We seek to be a community of grace and reconciliation and so welcome into membership all who confess faith in Jesus Christ, including those in same-gender covenant relationships. We are committed to engaging in God's mission in a broken world through an Anabaptist-Mennonite faith perspective.*